

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Ron Smith
Council Member Sherry Marquez

DATE: January 13, 2009

SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for the Antelope Valley Transit Authority**

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the November 24, 2008, regular Board of Directors meeting of the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA).

Background:

The Antelope Valley Transit Authority is a distinct government entity created under a joint powers authority agreement between the City of Lancaster, the City of Palmdale, and Los Angeles County that provides public transit services. Vice Mayor Ron Smith and Council member Sherry Marquez sit on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

The following items took place during the November Board meeting:

- A public hearing was held to review a proposed commuter fare increase. AVTA reported an 18% increase in the cost of commuter service this year over fiscal year 2007/2008. The Board approved the staff recommended fare increase which will partially recoup the revenue loss.
- The Board approved AVTA's recent job class and compensation study and authorized the Executive Director to implement the staff recommended salary increases and classification adjustments. Due to the salary increases, the City of Lancaster will contribute, in fiscal year 2009/2010, \$3,495 over the adopted fiscal year 2008/2009 budget. The objectives of the compensation and classification studies were, respectively, to better align AVTA with its competitive labor market and illustrate career ladders for current and future staff.
- In a new business item, the Board authorized staff to analyze the feasibility of making vehicle maintenance a function of AVTA staff. Veolia Transportation undertakes this task under the current service contract with AVTA. This action requires a mid-year budget adjustment of \$50,000 to fund the study. AVTA projects Lancaster's share to be \$3,920.

All other items approved were routine.